GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4401
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
NATIONAL MEDICINAL PLAN BOARD
Thakkar Smt. Jayaben B.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has constituted a National Medicinal Plant Board to promote cultivation processing and export of medicinal and aromatic plants;and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the composition of the board, its duties, responsibilities and tenure?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) The Government has set up a National Medicinal Plants Board in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(b) The apex body of the Board is headed by the Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare as Chairperson and Union Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare As Vice-Chairperson and other members drawn from various concerned Ministries/Departments/Organizations/ State and UT Governments as Ex-officio members while non-officials having expertise in various fields relating to medicinal plants are also nominated. The Board is to exist till further order as no tenure has been specified. However, the term of Non-official members and other nominated members from States/UTs, Research Councils and Pharmacopoeial Laboratories is for two years. The functions and duties of the Board is to coordinate all matters relating to medicinal plants, including drawing up policies and strategies for their conservation, proper harvesting, cost-effective cultivation, research and development and processing in order to protect, sustain and develop this sector.